

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An electronic apparatus comprising:

operation inputting means for designating one of a plurality of functions, including playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding;

function executing means for executing at least one of the plurality of functions designated by the operation inputting means;

measuring means for measuring the time during which each of the plurality of functions has been executed;

computing means for computing an amount of charge by multiplying the measured execution time of each of the plurality of functions by a weighing factor that is unique to each of the plurality of functions, wherein a time unit charge decreases as the measured execution time increases and the time unit charge becomes zero when the measured execution time reaches a predetermined time value; and

receiving means for receiving a first key to disable at least one of the plurality of functions if the amount of charge is not settled, and a second key to enable at least one of the plurality of functions if the amount of charge is settled.

2. - 4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously Presented) An electronic apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

storing means for storing execution times for each of the functions measured by the measuring means; and

transmitting means for transmitting the execution times from the storing means to an external entity for settlement of charges.

6. (Previously Presented) An electronic apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

storing means for storing a chargeable time representing the amount of charge computed by the computing means; and

transmitting means for transmitting the chargeable time from the storing means to an external entity for settlement of charges.

7. (Previously Presented) An electronic apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

storing means for storing a usable time of the apparatus; and

settling means for subtracting a chargeable time, representing the amount of charge computed by the computing means, from the usable time.

8. - 29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) A charge processing device comprising:

a first receiving means for receiving information about which of a plurality of functions, including playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding, provided by an apparatus is being executed;

execution ~~used~~ time measuring means which, based on a result of the reception by the receiving means, measures as a execution ~~used~~ time the time during which each of the plurality of functions has been executed;

chargeable time computing means for computing a chargeable time by multiplying the measured execution ~~used~~ time of each of the plurality of functions by a weighing factor that is unique to each of the plurality of functions, wherein a time unit charge decreases as the measured execution ~~used~~ time increases and the time unit charge becomes zero when the measured execution ~~used~~ time reaches a predetermined time value;

storing means for storing chargeable time information resulting from the computing by the chargeable time computing means; and

a second receiving means for receiving a first key to disable at least one of the plurality of functions if the amount of charge is not settled, and a second key to enable at least one of the plurality of functions if the amount of charge is settled.

31. (Previously Presented) A charge processing device according to claim 30, further comprising transmitting means for transmitting the chargeable time information from the storing means to an external entity for settlement of charges.

32. (Previously Presented) A storage medium which stores a program capable of controlling a computer, the program comprising the steps of:

measuring an execution time of each of a plurality of functions, including playback, recording, fast forwarding, and rewinding, provided by an electronic apparatus, each function having been input for execution;

computing an amount of charge by multiplying the measured execution time regarding each of the plurality of functions by a weighing factor that is unique to each of the plurality of functions, wherein a time unit charge decreases as the measured execution time increases and the time unit charge becomes zero when the measured execution time reaches a predetermined time value;

receiving a first key to disable at least one of the plurality of functions if the amount of charge is not settled, and a second key to enable at least one of the plurality of functions if the amount of charge is settled.

33. (Previously Presented) A storage medium which stores a program according to claim 32, wherein the program further comprises the step of transmitting the chargeable amount to an external entity for settlement of charges.

34. - 43. (Canceled)